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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 10, 2011

Aloha Ley
Associate Director
Small Community Air Service Development Program
United States Department of Transportation
Office of Aviation Analysis
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Director Ley:

It is my pleasure to support the Toledo Express Airport its effort to secure funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Small Community Air Service Development Program Grant.

If awarded, funding would be used to attract new air service from Toledo Express to better serve their communities. The Toledo Express Airport has seen a significant decline in its air traffic in the past decade, and airline capacity at Toledo Express is down more than 70 percent from 2003.

The airport has developed a comprehensive air service incentive program, including ground handling support and startup phase fee waivers. It is my hope that the combination of the grant funding to support marketing and promotional activities, as well as the airport's incentive program will provide Toledo with the tools it needs to reverse the leakage of local air travel demand to other airports, and re-establish some of the air service that has been lost in recent years.

Please give serious consideration to Toledo Express Airport's application for funding. I ask that you keep my office informed of the status of this application.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

SB: lm